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Applicant or Patentee: **Mark Ortiz and Paul A. Spence**
Attorney's Docket No. **SPEN-08**
Serial or Patent No. : **Unknown**
Filed or Issued: **Herewith**
For: **IMPLANTABLE HEART ASSIST DEVICES AND METHODS**

VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS (37 CFR 1.9(f) and 1.27(b)) - INDEPENDENT INVENTOR

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under Section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention entitled **Implantable Heart Assist Devices and Methods** described in:

☒ [XX] the specification filed herewith

☐ [] application serial no. _____, filed _____, issued _____.

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(a).

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

☒ [X] no such person, concern, or organization

☐ [] persons, concerns or organizations listed below *

*NOTE: Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

FULL NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____
☐ [] INDIVIDUAL ☐ [] SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN ☐ [] NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28 (b))

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

the specification of which (check one below):

(XX) is attached hereto.

() was filed on _____ as Application Serial No. _____,
Express Mail No. _____, Serial No. not yet known, and was
amended on _____ (if applicable).

(___) was filed on _____ as PCT International Application No. _____, and as amended under PCT Article 19 on _____ (if any).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations §1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Table 1

Prior Foreign Application(s)
Priority Claimed

_____	_____	_____	() Yes () No
(Number)	(Country)	Day/Month/Year Filed	
_____	_____	_____	() Yes () No
(Number)	(Country)	Day/Month/Year Filed	
_____	_____	_____	() Yes () No
(Number)	(Country)	Day/Month/Year Filed	

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 and/or §119(e) of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations §1.56, which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

_____	_____	_____
(Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status: Patented, Pending, or Abandoned)
_____	_____	_____
(Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status: Patented, Pending, or Abandoned)
_____	_____	_____
(Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status: Patented, Pending, or Abandoned)

I hereby appoint John D. Poffenberger (R. No. 20,245), Bruce Tittel (R. No. 22,324), Donald F. Frei (R. No. 21,190), David J. Josephic (R. No. 22,849), A. Ralph Navaro, Jr. (R. No. 23,050), David S. Stallard (R. No. 25,930), J. Robert Chambers (R. No. 25,448), Gregory J. Lunn (R. No. 29,945), Kurt L. Grossman (R. No. 29,799), Clement H. Luken, Jr. (R. No. 32,742), Thomas J. Burger (R. No. 32,662), Gregory F. Ahrens (R. No. 32,957), Wayne L. Jacobs (R. No. 35,553), Kurt A. Summe (R. No. 36,023), Kevin G. Rooney (R. No. 36,330), Keith R. Haupt (R. No. 37,638), Theodore R. Remaklus (R. No. 38,754), Thomas W. Humphrey (R. No. 34,353), Joseph R. Jordan (R. No. 25,686), C. Richard Eby (R. No. 25,854), David E. Pritchard (R. No. 38,273), David H. Brinkman (R. No. 40,532), J. Dwight Poffenberger, Jr. (R. No. 35,324), Beverly A. Lyman, Ph.D. (R. No. 41,961), A. Ralph Navaro III (R. No. 46,207), Scott A. Stinebruner (R. No. 38,323), Kristi L. Davidson (R. No. 44,643), P. Andrew Blatt, Ph.D. (R. No. 44,540), and David E. Franklin (R. No. 39,194), and of counsel, Herbert C. Brinkman (R. No. 16,955), all of Wood, Herron & Evans, L.L.P. 2700 Carew Tower, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202,

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telephone no. 513-241-2324, my attorneys, with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. Address all correspondence and telephone calls to Kevin G. Rooney at Wood, Herron & Evans, L.L.P., 2700 Carew Tower, Cincinnati, Ohio, 45202 at telephone number (513) 241-2324.

Wherefore I pray that Letters Patent be granted to me for the invention or discovery described and claimed in the foregoing specification and claims, and I hereby subscribe my name to the foregoing specification and claims, declaration, power of attorney, and this petition.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of sole or first inventor,
if any (given name, family name) Mark Ortiz

Second Inventor's signature Mark Ortiz Date _____

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Full name of second inventor
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Inventor's signature Paul Spence Date June 6/00

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